

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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JURY CONVICTS ST. JOSEPH MAN FOR ROLE IN CRACK COCAINE CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a St. Joseph, Mo., man was convicted by a federal jury for his role in a multiple defendant crack cocaine conspiracy.

Loren W. May, Sr., 48, of St. Joseph, was found guilty by a federal jury on Tuesday afternoon for his involvement in a conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine.

Following the presentation of evidence in **May's** trial, the jury deliberated for approximately two hours before returning the guilty verdict to Chief U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple, ending a trial that began on Monday in Kansas City.

Specifically, **May** was found guilty of conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine between Aug. 1, 1997, and Dec. 14, 2004, in Buchanan County, Mo.

"May was involved in a conspiracy that was responsible for distributing or possessing with intent to distribute at least 1.5 kilograms of crack cocaine," Graves said. "The guilty verdict brings the total number of defendants convicted in this case to nine. Eight others already have pleaded guilty."

On May 26, 2005, **Ramone, D. Stillman**, 24, of St. Joseph, and brothers **Loren W. May, Jr.**, 24, **Derrick L. May**, 19, and **Jorael E. May**, 22, all of St. Joseph, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture and distribute between 500 and 1,500 grams of crack cocaine between Aug. 1, 1997, and Dec. 14, 2004.

On March 30, 2005, **Maurice Thornton**, 49, of St. Joseph, pleaded guilty to using a telephone and cellular telephone to possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine between July 3 and Aug. 27, 2003.

On April 27, 2005, **Patricia R. Williams**, 38, of St. Joseph, pleaded guilty to maintaining a residence for the purpose of manufacturing and distributing crack cocaine between Aug. 1, 1997, and July 2, 2003.

On May 17, 2005, **Karlo L. Ginn**, 23, of St. Joseph, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine between Aug. 1, 1997, and Dec. 14, 2004.

On May 19, 2005, **Patricia W. Stillman**, 50, of St. Joseph, pleaded guilty to using a telephone and cellular telephone to possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine between July 3 and Aug. 27, 2003.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Buchanan County Drug Strike Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html